



USDA BROILER MARKET NEWS REPORT

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Poultry Programs

Market News Branch

NATIONAL BROILER MARKET-AT-A-GLANCE



Trade sentiment was mixed, ranging steady to firm in all areas. Retail and food service demand was light to fairly good with best interest for retail ads and fast food channels. Supplies were sufficient to well cleared with heavier sizes in the East close to short. In the parts structure, movement was fair to moderate for midweek trading. Breast items were sufficient to closely cleared, and dark meat was mixed, but available. Wings were adequate to at times ample for larger sizes. In production areas, live supplies were moderate at mixed weights.

GEORGIA F.O.B. DOCK PRICES The Georgia f.o.b. dock quoted price on broilers/fryers for next week's trading advanced .25 to 74.00 cents based on full truck load lots of ice-packed USDA grade "A" sized 2 1/2 to 3 pound birds. This compares to 73.25 cents last year on March 17, 2004.

Georgia f.o.b. dock quoted prices on ice-packed parts for next week's trading.

ITEM	DOCK PRICE (CENTS PER POUND)
LINE RUN TENDERS	176.50
BREASTS - B/S	152.50
BREASTS - WHOLE	86.50
THIGH MEAT - B/S	94.50
LEG QUARTERS	32.00
WINGS	108.00

This information is supplied by the Georgia Department of Agriculture's Poultry Market News Service.

SOUTHERN REGION Trade sentiment was at least steady to firm. Retail and food service demand was fair to moderate, best for active ads and fast food promotions. Supplies of all sizes were balanced to well cleared for trade needs. In the parts structure, trading was fair to mostly moderate. Breast items were in the strongest position with supplies barely adequate to short. Dark meat was sufficient to close and moving well, and wings were readily available. In production areas, live supplies were moderate at mixed, but mostly desirable weights.

NORTHEAST REGION Prices were unchanged. Trade sentiment remained steady. Retail and distributive demand ranged light to moderate, occasionally good where features were a factor. Large eggs were advertised for 47 cents per dozen. Supplies were mostly adequate for current trade needs. Breaking stock offerings were sufficient for a light to at times moderate demand. Spent hens were more than sufficient for usually normal processing schedules.

MIDWEST REGION The market tone on whole broiler/fryers was steady to firm. Trade interest was light. Offerings continued light. Movement overall was moderate to fairly good through all channels retail features, and fast food demand were providing best consumer interest. Floor stocks ranged fully adequate to short of needs. Weights desirable. Trade on parts was light to moderate for the limited offerings, although large wings were available. The market tone was steady to firm on all items but large wings which were cautiously steady to weak.

WESTERN REGION Trade sentiment was overall steady. Offerings in fairly good balance for trade needs. Buying activity was fair with interest focused on regular commitments. Retailer demand was best where feature activities in progress elsewhere only moderate. The market tone continued firm on breasts and mixed on balance of parts. Floor stocks were adequate overall.

CHICK PLACEMENT AND EGG SET TOTAL

19 STATES WEEK ENDING 03/12/05	2005	2004	PERCENT CHANGE PREVIOUS YEAR
EGGS SET	213,063	210,601	+01
CHICKS PLACED	176,613	170,698	+03

BROILER EGGS SET IN 19 SELECTED STATES UP 1 PERCENT

Commercial hatcheries in the 19-State weekly program set 213 million eggs in incubators during the week ending March 12, 2005. This was up 1 percent from the eggs set the corresponding week a year earlier. Average hatchability for chicks hatched during the week was 84 percent. Average hatchability is calculated by dividing chicks hatched during the week by eggs set three weeks earlier.

CHICKS PLACED UP 3 PERCENT

Broiler growers in the 19-State weekly program placed 177 million chicks for meat production during the week ending March 12, 2005. Placements were up 3 percent from the comparable week a year earlier. Cumulative placements from January 2, 2005 through March 12, 2005 were 1.75 billion, up 4 percent from the same period a year earlier.

WEEKLY FRYERS AVAILABLE FOR MARKETING Based on the preliminary chick placements, the number of fryers available for marketing during the week ending 23-Apr-05 is estimated at 162.4 million head. This compares to 162.9 million head the previous week and to 159.9 million head the same week a year ago, when the slaughter was 157.9 million head and the composite weighted average price was 76.53 cents per pound.

MARCH 15, 2005

SOUTHERN STATES BROILER/FRYER PARTS

MARCH 16, 2005

F.O.B. DOCK OR EQUIVALENT, ICED-PACKED, PRICES SHOWN ARE DAY OF SHIPMENT (INCLUDES CURRENT AND PRIOR NEGOTIATIONS), TRUCKLOT AND LESS THAN TRUCKLOT VOLUME, CENTS PER POUND.

ITEM	POUNDS (000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG
BREAST - B/S	735	147.00-220.00	152-155	154.91
TENDERLOINS	216	145.00-190.00	153-157	153.19
BREAST - LINE RUN	83	90.00-105.00	93-95	94.07
FRONT HALVES	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
LEGS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	483	29.00-33.00	30	29.94
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	965	31.00-35.00	32-33	32.38
WINGS (WHOLE)	235	72.00-106.00	102-106	99.23
WINGS (CUT)	470	88.00-124.00	120-124	118.48
DRUMSTICKS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
B/S THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			

WHOLE BODY INDEX BASED ON SOUTHERN STATES PARTS TRADING FOR — F.O.B. DOCK.

RANGE	TODAY'S AVERAGE
54.00 - 60.00	55.40

ITEM	POUNDS (000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG
BREAST - B/S	630	145.00-156.00	148-153	150.97
TENDERLOINS	195	150.00-190.00	152-157	156.03
BREAST - LINE RUN	92	90.00-102.00	93-95	93.64
FRONT HALVES	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
LEGS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	420	29.00-33.00	30	30.01
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	1,045	31.00-36.00	32-33	32.56
WINGS (WHOLE)	275	70.00-109.00	102-106	100.40
WINGS (CUT)	442	85.00-125.00	122-124	118.39
DRUMSTICKS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
B/S THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			

F.O.B. DOCK.

RANGE	TODAY'S AVERAGE	5-DAY AVERAGE
52.00-59.00	55.14	54.84

The Index is intended solely as an indicator of values for commodity-type product and does not represent industry's willingness to sell or ability to buy.

NORTHEAST BROILER/FRYER PARTS

Trucklot buying activity was fair to moderate during midweek trading. Offerings of boneless skinless breasts and tenders were in good balance to well cleared; bone-in breast were adequate and clearing satisfactorily. Dark meat cuts were at least sufficient. Wings were available. Movement through retail and distributive channels was moderate. The market tone was fully steady on boneless skinless breasts and tenderloins; steady to fully steady on bone-in breast. Wings were no better than steady.

ICE PACKED BROILER/FRYER PARTS, DELIVERED TO FIRST RECEIVERS IN POOL TRUCKLOT AND TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES, CENTS PER POUND

MARCH 15, 2005

ITEM	CURRENT NEG TRADING*	WTD AVG**	VOL/LBS
BREAST - B/S	160	151.95	873,581
TENDERLOINS	155-160	153.05	73,520
BREAST - WITH RIBS	92-93	97.96	131,040
BREAST - LINE RUN	92	92.39	101,000
LEGS	44-45	43.82	251,920
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	31-32	31.36	440,178
DRUMSTICKS	31-32	36.15	202,260
THIGHS	37-38	46.69	63,220
B/S THIGHS	96-97	93.26	124,000
WINGS (WHOLE)	100-101	104.29	120,520
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	10-12	11.57	15,800
LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	30-35	26.75	21,440
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	60-65	64.32	25,640

INCLUDES: NY CITY METRO. AREA, RI, NORTHERN NJ, MA, CT, PA (NORTHEAST OF HARRISBURG).

* TODAY'S NEGOTIATED SALES AS OF 11:30 A.M.

** WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRICE OF ALL GRADES AND BRANDS OF PRODUCT SHIPPED, OR TO BE SHIPPED AS OF 1:30 P.M.

MARCH 16, 2005

ITEM	CURRENT NEG TRADING*	WTD AVG**	VOL/LBS
BREAST - B/S	160	153.84	753,080
TENDERLOINS	155-160	159.66	97,423
BREAST - WITH RIBS	92-93	97.67	97,240
BREAST - LINE RUN	92	91.45	103,920
LEGS	44-45	44.44	252,480
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	31-32	32.21	365,008
DRUMSTICKS	31-32	33.31	199,880
THIGHS	37-38	45.97	87,520
B/S THIGHS	96-97	95.78	56,400
WINGS (WHOLE)	100-101	98.86	141,960
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	10-12	11.71	20,600
LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	30-35	31.97	17,480
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	60-65	65.07	12,920

ESTIMATED SLAUGHTER OF BROILER-FRYERS (IN THOUSANDS)

	ESTIMATED (1,000)	ACTUAL (1,000)	AVG WTS	ACTUAL WTS	AVG WTS
	03/16	03/15	03/14	03/11	03/14
Alabama	3,773	3,941	3,995	3,981	5.24
Arkansas	5,484	5,528	5,447	5,067	5.10
Delmarva	2,186	2,180	2,158	2,130	5.60
KY-LA-TN	2,174	2,279	2,212	2,076	4.94
Mississippi	3,031	3,105	2,973	2,826	5.55
North Car	2,540	2,534	2,457	2,579	6.49
Texas	2,417	2,387	2,462	3,443	5.19
Total	21,605	21,954	21,704	22,102	5.39
Mon-Wed	65,605(A)				64,008(A)

(A) Weekly cumulative for states listed above.

Broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for 16-Mar-05 is estimated to be 32,323,000 head up 0.83 percent from a week ago and up 5.01 percent from a year ago.

(Last week 32,056,000, last year 30,782,000)

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (L.A. AREA) PROCESSED POULTRY
DELIVERED TO RETAILERS

	RANGE
FRESH FRYERS	97-99
ROASTERS 4# & UP	99-107
HENS UNDER 5#	-
HENS OVER 5#	65-73
DUCKS	-
RABBITS-WHOLE	-
RABBITS-CUT UP	-

SAN FRANCISCO PROCESSED POULTRY

DELIVERED TO RESTAURANTS AND INSTITUTIONS

FRESH FRYERS	ICE PACK	105-107
	DRY PACK	105-108
ROASTERS 4# & UP	ICE PACK	108-111
	DRY PACK	111
HENS OVER 5#	ICE PACK	89-93
	DRY PACK	89-95
DUCKS		180-192

ESTIMATED U.S. LIVE POULTRY SLAUGHTER

UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION FOR WEEK ENDING 19-Mar-05

	CURRENT WEEK	PREVIOUS WEEK
	03/19/05 (1)	03/12/05
CLASS	THOUSAND HEAD	
Broiler/fryer	162,655 (2)	165,098
Light hens	1,307	1,761
Heavy hens	1,371	1,327
Total	165,333	168,186

(1)ESTIMATED

(2)The estimated number of broiler-fryers available for slaughter the week ending 19-Mar-05 is 162.0 million head compared to 154.9 million head slaughtered the same week last year. The estimated U.S. slaughter this week is 163.0 million head or 1.0 million more than estimated available. For the week of 26-Mar-05 the estimated available is 164.0 million head.

WEEKLY COLD STORAGE HOLDINGS-SELECTED STGE CENTERS
(INCL GOVT STOCKS) (IN THOUSANDS)

	PROCESSED TURKEY	PROCESSED POULTRY
	LBS	LBS
AM 03/14/05	97,151	44,731
AM 03/01/05	88,108	41,709
CHG	9,043	3,022
PCT CHG	10	7

COLD STORAGE MOVEMENT (IN THOUSANDS)

	PROCESSED TURKEYS			PROCESSED POULTRY		
	03/14/05	03/07/05	03/15/04	03/14/05	03/07/05	03/15/04
PACIFIC						
COAST	3,124	2,874	6,363	6,501	6,433	4,089
LOS						
ANGELES	48	55	372	3,674	3,504	2,272

CENTRAL MISCELLANEOUS POULTRY RTC HENS

READY-TO-COOK PRICES NEGOTIATED FOR DELIVERY TO FIRST RECEIVERS, U.S. GRADE A AND PLANT GRADE, 5 LBS. AND UP, FOR WEEK OF MARCH 14, 2005

	RANGE
HENS	74-78
VACUUM PACKED (12 PER BOX)	80-88

HACKETTSTOWN POULTRY SALES

FOR 03/15/05

AI PAPERS REQUIRED TO SELL ALL OUT OF STATE POULTRY

	LOW HIGH AVG			LOW HIGH AVG		
HEAVY FOWL lb.	.40	.65	.79	HEAVY FOWL ea.	-	-
LIGHT FOWL lb.	-	-	-	LIGHT FOWL ea.	-	-
MIXED FOWL lb.	-	-	-	MIXED FOWL ea.	-	-
BANTAMS lb.	-	-	-	BANTAMS ea.	-	-
BROILERS lb.	-	-	-	BROILERS ea.	-	-
ROASTERS lb.	-	-	-	ROASTERS ea.	-	-
FRYERS lb.	-	-	-	FRYERS ea.	-	-
CHICKS lb.	-	-	-	CHICKS ea.	.25	.35
PULLETS lb.	-	-	-	PULLETS ea.	-	-
BUNNIES lb.	-	1.10	-	BUNNIES ea.	1.75	4.75
ROOSTERS lb.	-	-	-	ROOSTERS ea.	-	-
GEESE lb.	-	-	-	GEESE ea.	-	-
TURKEYS lb.	-	-	-	TURKEYS ea.	-	-
DUCKS lb.	1.15	1.35	1.26	DUCKS ea.	-	-
RABBITS lb.	.55	1.35	1.01	RABBITS ea.	-	-
PIGEONS lb.	-	-	-	PIGEONS ea.	3.00	4.75
GUINEA FOWL lb.	-	-	-	GUINEA FOWL ea.	-	-
DUCKLINGS lb.	-	-	-	DUCKLINGS ea.	-	-
GUINEA KEETS ea.	-	-	-	CALL DUCKS ea.	-	-
SILKIES ea.	-	-	-	GOSLINGS ea.	-	-
GUINEA PIGS ea.	-	-	-	TURKEY POULTS ea.	-	-
CHUKARS ea.	-	-	-			

TOTAL COOPS 41

MAJOR WHOLESALE MARKETS - Mexico City

Cents per pound for the week ending March 11, 2005

	<u>Whole</u>		<u>Legs</u>	<u>Necks, Backs</u>	<u>Livers/</u>	
	<u>Chickens</u>	<u>Breasts</u>	<u>W/ Thighs</u>	<u>& Wings</u>	<u>Gizzards</u>	<u>Hens</u>
RAYON						
Low	78.32	127.78	86.56	20.61	12.37	55.65
High	80.38	140.14	98.92	24.73	14.43	55.65
Mostly	78.32	140.14	98.92	24.73	14.43	55.65

SAN JUAN

Low	77.08	131.90	90.68	20.61	12.37	55.65
High	78.32	140.14	98.92	24.73	16.49	55.65
Mostly	78.32	140.14	98.92	24.73	16.49	55.65

NEW SAN JUAN

Low	75.84	131.90	90.68	20.61	12.37	55.65
High	77.90	140.14	94.80	24.73	14.43	55.65
Mostly	77.90	131.90	94.80	22.67	12.37	55.65

BECERRA

Low	78.32	131.90	86.56	20.61	12.37	56.47
High	79.96	140.14	98.92	28.85	16.49	56.47
Mostly	78.32	140.14	98.92	28.85	16.49	56.47

DELMARVA

Movement of ready-to-cook whole birds was seasonally active and was sufficient in keeping available offerings of 3.00 and 3.50 pound sizes generally well cleared. 2.50 and in instances 4.00 pound sizes were at least adequate. Live supplies were moderate; weights remained irregular, lighter than desired at some points, heavier than desired in spots. Processor schedules were moderate and included some downtime in an effort to build on bird weights. Less than trucklot asking prices were 1 cent higher at 72 to 84 cents. Trade sentiment was fully steady to firm. Parts were adequate to short and generally in the tighter balance on breast cuts.

*BROILER/FRYER CURRENT NEGOTIATED PRICES FOR IMMEDIATE DELIVERY INCLUDES MOSTLY MULTIPLE-DROP SHIPMENTS OF BRANDED AND WING TAGGED TO NEW YORK CITY FROM DELMARVA

**BRANDED
U.S. GRADE A**

RANGE	71-86
WEIGHTED AVERAGE	76.70
NO. OF BOXES	4,452

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